

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: WLG-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Jarvis, et al.	)	Examiner:	Jane J. Rhee
)		
Serial No: 09/828,715	)	Art Unit:	1745
)		
Filed: April 6, 2001	)	Confirmation No:	5602
)		
Title: A Method of Joining Two or More	)	Deposit Acct. No:	04-1403
Substrates With a Seam)		
	)	Customer No:	22827

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 8, 2007, Applicants elect, through and by their representative, the inventions of Group I, claims 100, 101, 103-113, and 123-125. This election is made with traverse.

The requirement for restriction is not a statutory requirement, but is merely designed to reduce undue burden on the Examiner during prosecution of a patent application. In this particular case, the subject matter of the claims of Groups I and II is common as to a stitchless seam and as such the subject matter must be commonly searched. Moreover, the inventions as claimed (e.g., a five layer stitchless seam including two substrate portions and three thermoplastic tape portions, one of which is a multi-layer tape portion that runs the length of the seam, as in independent claim 101, and a multi-layer stitchless seam including two substrate portions and three tape

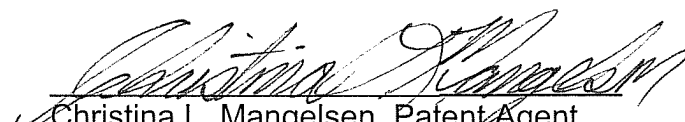
portions, in which the bonding width between the first tape portion and the first substrate portion is equivalent to the seam width plus an additional width of at least 1.6 millimeters, as in independent claim 114) are capable of use together and also have a similar design, mode of operation, function, and effect. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that examination of all of the pending claims presents no undue burden on the Examiner and request rejoinder of claims 114-125.

It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action, therefore, is respectfully requested. Examiner Rhee is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this Response.

Please charge any additional fees required by this response to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully submitted,

DORITY & MANNING, P.A.


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Date: 3/16/07